



State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection and Energy
Division of Responsible Party Site Remediation
CN 028
Trenton, NJ 08625-0028

Jeanne M. Fox
Acting Commissioner

Karl J. Delaney
Director

OCT 05 1993

George Pavlou, Acting Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

Dear Director Pavlou:

Re: Removal Request - Monroe Burn Site #2
Malaga and New Brooklyn Roads
Monroe, New Jersey

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (Department) hereby submits the Monroe Burn Site #2 for CERCLA removal action consideration. The following information details the case history and supports the removal request.

The Monroe Burn Site #2 is a pile of black ash and debris encompassing an area approximately 200 feet wide and 200 feet long located in a wooded section of Monroe Township, approximately 0.75 mile off of Malaga Road. The responsible party and source of the residual ash are unknown, however, a suspect, Mr. Moses A. Dillard of Williamstown, New Jersey, was arrested for the theft of copper wire from the Philadelphia Naval Yard on October 30, 1979. Mr. Dillard's car was spotted near the burn site at the time of the incident and some of the residuals found at the site were traced back to the shipyard. No record of an arrest or prosecution linking Mr. Dillard to the burn site can be found. The property owner at the time of the incident, Mr. Warren Poteat, has since sold the contaminated parcel, listed as Block 4001, Lot 1, to Mr. Earl T. Urban of Williamstown, New Jersey.

On June 7, 1993, the Emergency Management Coordinator for Monroe Township notified the USEPA Region II office of the presence of an ash pile found in a wooded section of the township. EPA was contacted based on the similarities in scope and size to other copper reclamation sites undergoing removal actions in Gloucester County, New Jersey.

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On June 9, 1993, EPA investigated the site, finding similarities with other sites undergoing removal actions in Franklin Township, New Jersey, as part of the Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model (SACM) program. The Franklin Township sites involved the open pit burning of plastic insulation off copper wire in order to retrieve the ~~residual~~ metal, leaving behind a residual pile of ash and soil contaminated with heavy metals such as zinc, copper and lead.

A Field Directive was issued to Mr. Earl Urban on September 14, 1993, directing the current property owner to sample, characterize and dispose of the ash pile along with any other materials abandoned on site, as well as sample and delineate the extent of contamination to the underlying soil and the impact of any such contamination to the ground water, in accordance with all applicable state, local and federal regulations. Mr. Urban responded to the Directive by claiming a lack of funds to conduct the cleanup.

The Department views the site as an environmental concern and direct contact threat as it is situated 100 feet from a wetlands area and may be located within the New Jersey Pinelands. The wooded area is also frequented by local residents who may come in contact with the material as the site is not fenced and is easily accessible.

The Department therefore requests that EPA secure, sample, characterize and dispose of the ash pile and the underlying soils in such a way as to safeguard the health and safety of the surrounding population.

Should your staff require additional information, please have them contact David E. Triggs of the Bureau of Field Operations, Site Assessment Section at (609) 584-4280.

Sincerely,


Karl J. Delaney

C: Acting Assistant Director Van Fossen, Discharge Response Element
Section Chief Krisak, Southern Field Office
Associate Director Salkie, Removal & Emergency Preparedness
Program, USEPA